# TIMES-VIRGINIAN

IN THE HEART OF THE DARK TOBACCO BELT
APPOMATTOX, VIRGINIA
ESTABLISHED 1892

CALVIN H. ROBINSON ..... EDITOR AND PUBLISHER
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NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION 1948 Better Newspaper — VIRGINIA PRESS


## EDITORIALS

Virginia State Police records indicate only a 5.5 per cent decrease in Virginia highway deaths for the first nine months of 1948 when compared with the same period of last year, according to E. H. Williams, Jr., executive director of the Governor's Highway Safety Committee.

Mr. Williams stated that the first three-quarters of 1947 saw 521 such fatalities while the score for this year stood as 492 as of October 1. Pedestrian deaths topped 1947's toll 133 to 129 and Mr. Williams expressed the fear that, by the year's end, we might see a record worse than that of 1947, since traffic deaths mount sharply with fall and winter months.

At this time last year, he stated, total deaths were 18.6 per cent less than for a similar period of 1946 with pedestrian deaths 28.4 per cent below. Mr. Williams also stated that the old nemeses late reports and subsequent deaths quite possibly might bring a death toll worse than that of last year for the period.

Mr. Williams pointed out that, while 711 deaths were considered a commendable record, it is still shocking total and can bear much improvement. If the average citizen, he said, was informed that he, a member of his family or a close friend was in immediate danger, he would bend every effort to avert this danger. Yet he simply will not realize that this is exactly the case and that a little ordinary caution and common horse sense can prevent 90 per cent of our accidents.

Mr. Williams states that traffic volumes for the year exceeded last year's by 10 per cent.

### MENTAL ILLNESS
(Atlanta Journal)

There seems to be much that is hopeful in the decision to organize in London a new world federation for mental health dedicated to seeking the cause and cure of the worldwide mental illness that has resulted in tragedy and upheaval since time immemorial. The projected body will seek designation as a voluntary organization in the field of mental health for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the World Health Organization.

Because it will represent the first large-scale mobilization of all forces concerned with mental health and because it will seek to bring about understanding of the complexity of human relations, the movement may be viewed as of exceptional significance. How serious is the problem of mental health is evidenced graphically in the fact that about one-seventeenth of the population of the United States has been characterized as psychotic, either confined in institutions or belonging in them.

The heartening aspect is that we are becoming increasingly aware of the meaning and the dangers of mental ill health on so great a scale. We are discussing more freely, and more intelligently, the problems engendered by them. It should not be overlooked, however, that this trend is still in its early stages, that we have a critical lack of facilities for those with mental illnesses and that a far greater awakening is needed before there is a major contribution to the solution of the problem.

If this new international organization can help awaken people all over the world to the problem, then we may hope at last to overcome one of mankind's greatest enemies.

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Duke noses out Maryland by a score of 13 to 12.

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U. of North Carolina tops Southern Conference football teams.

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Fighting flares up again in Palestine.

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**Renew your subscription.**

Some notes on the approaching Presidential election:

First of all, of great interest is publication of October Gallop Poll results for Virginia. The poll indicates a neck-to-neck race between Dewey and Truman for the electoral votes of the Old Dominion, with the minor party tickets far behind. The new States Rights party was given 8 per cent of the total; not enough to give it a ghost of a chance to carry the state, but just enough to mean the difference between a Republican or a Democratic victory in Virginia.

This is interesting. Gallop polls cannot be dismissed with the statement "polls can be wrong, and I haven't seen any of their pollsters going around; it's guessing." There is no doubt that Gallop polls can be and frequently are up to three per cent off, and they carry an additional lee-way in 'undecided voters' —hue when a Gallop poll taken a month or less before an election shows a party to have only 8 per cent of the total, you can write off that party as hopelessly lost.

The poll is interesting, too, in that it shows where blame can be placed, or credit given, as the viewpoint may be, if Virginia goes for Thomas E. Dewey and the Republican party.

We hazard no guess as to whether or not Virginia will go Republican. It looks close. But, personally, we think the vote may not be so heavy; lot's of people are not going to vote at all. Others, who in 1944 voted Republican because they did approve of the New Deal may this time vote for Thurmond instead of Dewey due to their lack of confidence in the Republican Congress.

There is one other interesting item in connection with the election as regards our state. That is the hue and cry about that fact that our Governor and our Senior Senator are taking no active public part in the campaign. We are not so excited about that angle. We simply know that both our Governor and our Senior Senator are men of courage and conviction, and, therefore, if either felt that any great issue was at stake, they would not only announce their stand but would be out campaigning from county to county and town to town. The only conclusion to be reached is that leaders in question see no vital issue at stake. To reach any other conclusion is to accuse them of being timed, scared men. That we are not willing to do. We believe that if the Senior Senator or the Governor wished "organization" voters and others to cast ballots for either Thurmond, Truman, or Dewey, that said leaders would be honest and open enough to stand up and say and take to the hustings. We have that much faith in them. We would not have supported both of them all these years had we believed them political cowards. No sir. We have never known either to remain silent when a vital issue was at stake in Virginia. These are bold, brave and fearless men where a vital issue is at stake. You would not have to 'coax and beg them to take a stand. They would not resort to "cute" or tricky statements calling for reading between the lines. Not where an important issue was at stake. Conclusion: they doubtless have lots of sympathy for the States Right group and they are doubtless not entirely pleased with the regular Democratic set-up, but they see nothing in it to get excited about, and think that it will work itself out in time, within the party.

* * *

Meanwhile, Governor Dewey approaches the election hour serene and confident. He has not had to wage a fight on issues, but rather take a few trips about the country and take full advantage of the very favorable breaks he has been getting. Postscript: by and large it is a dull election, with few popular issues and generally colorless.

### CONSOLATION
(Louisville Times)

One out of every six adults in the United States gets money from the Government, and the remaining five get whatever consolation there is in the thought that it is better to give than to receive.

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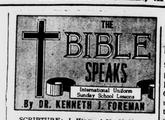
Phone 30 with Personals.

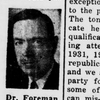



SCRIPTURE: I Kings 4:31—11:13
DEVOTIONAL READING: Psalms 32: 12-22

## God's Hand in History

**Lesson for October 24, 1948**

SUPPOSE you were given a long flexible wire and were asked to arrange it on a pattern which would represent history, what would you do to it? Some people would cut that wire into little bits and let them fall in a pile like jackstraws. History, they would say, is a meaningless collection of disconnected events—it has no real pattern.


Dr. Foreman

Someone else would arrange the wire like a long arrow pointing upward; others would make it into an arrow pointing downward; these would be the pure optimists and pessimists among historians.

**Others would arrange it in a series of up-and-down curves—history, they would say, sometimes goes up and sometimes down, but it never gets anywhere. Others again would make an immense circle, history goes around and around in cycles, repeating itself.**

Others still might take that wire and shape it into a kind of spiral, almost repeating itself but never quite, often seeming to go backward but actually making some progress.

* * *

### God's Chosen People

A GOOD deal of the Old Testament is taken up with history. Starting with Genesis and going through Esther, most of what you read is history. But it is not mere chronicles, that is to say it is not a mere listing of events.

**The historical parts of the Bible were written by men who had a theory of history. They would agree that the Golden Age is ahead of us, not behind.**

They would all agree that the most important figure in human history is not a human being at all, but God the Creator. They would all agree that his hand can be seen — if you look for it — in the events of man's existence here. And they all affirm that among all the nations of the earth there was one which could be called truly God's chosen people, the little nation called Israel, the people we know as the Jews.

**The whole of Hebrew history is a sort of sermon on this text: Righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people. The history of any nation, ancient or modern, would illustrate that text just as well; only the Israelite historians saw it most clearly. They showed how, when their people followed God's leading and his laws, they prospered; when they went their own stupid, selfish ways they suffered.**

* * *

### Somehow Good

ONE great lesson the Old Testament history teaches is that God's will is good, and that when man defies and disobeys that will, he does it to his own destruction, but that God can bring good out of evil.

People often act from bad motives; yet even the worst of motives God can overrule. David waded in blood to his throne, and he treated cruelly many of his enemies. That was not good; yet God brought out of that a national independence and strength.

**David put Solomon on the throne because he was the son of his favorite wife; that was pure favoritism. Yet God brought good out of a choice which was selfish.**

When the Israelites were tempted to fall for the cheap and nasty gods whose shrines filled the land, that was bad; but it gave the prophets their great opportunity to make perfectly clear the difference between false and true religion.

* * *

### The Voice of God

HISTORY is no bucket of ashes. If you have ears to listen, it is the voice of God. These ancient tales of a nation long since dead, that lived in all scarce 800 years, carry God's voice to us today.

**The diseases which are fatal to a nation's life are here described; the foundations on which alone true national welfare can be built are made quite plain.**

Up to now, all nations have perished sooner or later. We can see some of them decaying in our own time. That is because no nation ever yet has built its life on God's design. But the pattern is there, the lesson has been written. God still waits for a people who will learn his lesson in how to live.

(Copyright by the International Council of Religious Education on behalf of 57 Protestant denominations. Released by WNU Features.)

### COMMUNICATIONS

Editor, Times-Virginian,
Appomattox, Va.
Dear Sir:

September 9th issue of the Lynchburg News carried an article by Hon. Robert Whitehead of Nelson County headed "States Rights Party rapped by Whitehead." In belittling this party he terms it "A sectional group with a rump foundation." Well, a good lot of nicely prepared rump is a very palatable and desirable foundation. He says he shall vote the straight Democratic ticket, Truman, Barkley, Robertson and Harrison. That is all right; he has that right and no one will deprive him of it, and there may be a great many voters who will not be interested as to his vote. But is he enlightened as to how other people, with exceptional intelligence to dictate to the people how they should vote? The tone of his article would indicate he feels he has that special qualification. In regard to his calling attention to the years, 1930, 1931, 1932 and 1933, for which the republican party was responsible and we are proud of the Democratic party for relieving the country of some of the inequities of Republican mis-rule, but we must be careful and not come anywhere near the low of the Republican party. While we are laying claims to the flush of prosperity we are now enjoying, who can be given credit for the billions of dollars of debt hanging over us. Can a business man be heralded to the world as a leader in business who goes deeper in debt every year, and when he passes away, leaving his heirs burdened with a debt caused by extravagance of their ancestor?

* * *

H. C. Pulliam.

(Editor's note: We are always glad to receive letters from our valued readers. The above letter was reduced to 250 words by us due to its being addressed to an article in another paper, and its having been published in full by said paper.)

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Initial cold wave of season hits the state. Frost Tuesday morning.

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Tomato misses Dewey's head as he speaks at Syracuse.

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Supreme court will clarify divorce rules.

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UN may have to take special action on Palestine crisis.

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Truman addresses American Legion convention in Miami.


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## Oakville

... Oct. 19.- Mr. and Mrs. ... Martin, Sr., and Mr. and Mrs. ... Martin spent last week-end ... Va., visiting Mr. and ... Williams and family.

... Mrs. Marshall Martin ... guests Sunday Mr. and ... Martin and family and ... Oscar Whitten and ...

... afternoon Mesdames Martin, James Martin and ... Whitten and baby called on ... Harvey.

... Martin spent Sunday night ... of Mr. and Mrs. James ... Monday night, Tommy ... R. T. Megginson, Jr., ... in this home.

... Martin and Gail Drinkard ... day night with Mrs. E. B. ...

... W. F. Moore and ... Mr. and Mrs. Raymond ... afternoon.

... Louis Moore and ... Mr. and Mrs. G. F. ... visited Mrs. J. C. Moore, ... Mr. and Mrs. ... Abner Berkley Rogers.

... Mr. and Mrs Bob Wells and ... Mr. and Mrs. George Page and ... Mr. and Mrs. S. L. Page ... Bass and daughters were ... the home of Mr. and ... L. Page Sunday.

... Oakville P. T. A. held meeting last Tuesday night at school, with a good attendance.

Mr. Alex Bryant, at Vera, celebrated his 72nd birthday October 10th. Those with him were: Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Durie, of Lynchburg; Mr. and Mrs. John Durie and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Durie and children, Mr. and Mrs. Dickey Childress and son, Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Bryant and children, Mr. and Mrs. Hal Bryant and her sister, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Gunter and children; Clayton Cyrus, of Spout Spring; Mr. Sam Bryant and Mr. Luther Stanley, Miss Dorothy Hall and Clyde Hall.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Bryant and son, Mr. and Mrs. Ed May, and Mrs. Reva Ayers visited Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Durie Sunday.

## Liberty Chapel

Liberty Chapel, Oct. 20.- Mrs. C. L. Harris and her mother, Mrs. A. S. Thornton, of Timberlake Road, visited Mrs. Sam Thornhill last week.

Rev. and Mrs. J. P. Lester were dinner guests Sunday of Mr. and Mrs. Percy Garrett.

Mrs. Marvin Reynolds and Mrs. Lonnie Reynolds and son visited in the home of Mrs. Raymond Martin last Thursday.

We are sorry to hear of the illness of Mrs. Carrington Carter. We hope for her a speedy recovery.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Thornhill and daughter visited her sister, Mrs. Lillie Garbee last Sunday.

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UN orders peace in Palestine.

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U. of North Carolina tops Southern Conference football teams.


Farm Topics

## Efficient Fertilizer Use Boosts Yields

### Good Soil Management Must Aid Plant Food

Every ton of fertilizer can be stretched or used more efficiently, boosting crop yields at the same time. Many farmers, says Middle West Soil Improvement committee, use fertilizer as a crutch. They try to make it substitute for good management practices. They put plant food in the soil without making sure the plant can send out its roots to use it.

Fertilizer is essential in giving the soil plant nutrients to feed crops. But fertilizer can't do the whole job. It must be teamed with other practices that build and maintain soil structure and keep the top soil "mulled down."

The soil needs good structure so roots can grow and reach out for plant food. Roots need air and water to live. When a soil is packed down and tight, there is no room for the air and water needed by roots and plants for high crop production.

The way to build soil structure is to grow legumes and grasses regularly in the rotation. These legumes make a thick layer of good soil.

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They add organic matter. Such soil has plenty of air space. Water soaks in quickly and more of it is held.

Weak, scattered stands of legumes won't build soil structure. For strong, leafy stands and vigorous roots, the legumes need phosphate and potash that can be added in commercial fertilizer. Getting thick stands isn't the whole story either. All these crops can't be cut for hay or graze close and still be expected to build the soil. At least a part of these crops must be turned back to the soil.

### Doves Gain New Attention; Had Big Role in Last War

Mysterious recesses of the earth, long fascinating both to adventurous boys and cave scientists, are getting an extra share of attention lately.

U. S. army and navy authorities, advised by underground experts, have been making extensive study of the many caves that underlie most of the 48 states. To recent suggestions, however, that these and other cavities of the world might offer easy protection against atomic or bacteriological warfare the answers are pessimistic.

One army map service spokesman declares that most natural caves surveyed in the last eight years are suitable only for storage because of remoteness, dampness and hazardous formations.

Whatever their future value, caves and mines had a role in World War II. From the Far East to western Europe, men used them for personal and industrial shelter, as well as for essential storage space.

China's wartime capital, Chungking, was noted for its vast system of new and old tunnels in which the city's population of hundreds of thousands kept civic life going through years of relentless Japanese bombing. Two of the world's most heavily bombed spots, the English channel port of Dover and the British Mediterranean isle of Malta, made life-savers of old catacombs. Athens hid priceless statuary from the Acropolis in nearby caves on the site of the Prison of Socrates. And the salt and copper mines of Germany and Austria gave up enormous collections of art and other treasures looted from conquered countries or removed from Germany's own museums and castles for safekeeping.

## Women now find 2-way help for old problem

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